

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: T. KOBAYASHI, et al.
Serial No: 10/553,747
Filed: OCTOBER 18, 2005
Title: MOLECULAR DETECTION METHOD, MOLECULAR
COUNTING METHOD, MOLECULAR LOCALIZATION
DETECTION METHOD, AND MOLECULAR DETECTION
SYSTEM USED THEREFOR
Group AU: 1634
Examiner: Narayan Kameshwar Bhat
Confirm. No: 5938

RESPONSE

Mail Stop: AMEND – NO FEE

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

April 26, 2007

SIR:

In response to the Office Action mailed March 26, 2007, Applicants respectfully elect the Group I claims (that is, claims 1-7 and 17, which the Examiner characterizes as being drawn to a molecular detection method comprising visualizing and identifying a chain molecule). This election is made without traverse.

Contentions made by the Examiner in the paragraph bridging pages 2 and 3 of this Office Action mailed March 26, 2007, are noted. Please note that the present election is being made without traverse, in order to facilitate proceedings; and it is respectfully submitted that such election without traverse does not constitute agreement with, or an admission as to the propriety of, arguments made by the Examiner in this paragraph bridging pages 2 and 3 of the Office Action mailed March 26, 2007.

April 26, 2007

The comments by the Examiner in the paragraph bridging pages 3 and 4, and first full paragraph on page 4, of the Office Action mailed March 26, 2007, are noted. As Applicants are electing method claims, it is respectfully submitted that such comments by the Examiner, directed to where Applicant "elects claims directed to the product", are moot.

In view of all of the foregoing, examination of the Group I claims on the merits, in due course, is respectfully requested.

To the extent necessary, Applicants hereby petition for an extension of time under 37 CFR 1.136. Kindly charge any shortage of fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including any extension of time fees, to the Deposit Account of Antonelli, Terry, Stout & Kraus, LLP, Account No. 01-2135 (case 1204.45527X00), and please credit any overpayments to such Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,

ANTONELLI, TERRY, STOUT & KRAUS, LLP

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